

Line 8, change "be always coincided with each other" to --coincide--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A multifunctional time measurement device including a mechanism, having a function [of] for measuring at least an arbitrary elapsed time, for disabling [said] the function from being reset after [said] the function is started and enabling [said] the function to be reset after [said] the function is stopped, wherein [said] the function is continuously held in an electrical ON state after being started, except when being normally stopped.
2. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 1, wherein [said] the function is also held in the electrical ON state even when the power-supply voltage falls below an operating voltage for [said] the function and then [reaches again a] returns to the operation voltage [for allowing the operation].
3. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 1[or 2], further comprising an actuating section for [operating the] starting and stopping [of said] the function, wherein the electrical ON state of [said] the function is switched to the OFF state by stopping [said] the function [by] with the [said] actuating section.
4. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 3, wherein [said] the function is normally stopped when [being] the function is stopped by [said] the actuating section.

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5. (Amended) A time measurement device having a hand for indicating at least an arbitrary measured elapsed time, and a mechanism for disabling [said] the hand from being returned to zero after [said] the hand is driven and for enabling [said] the hand to be returned to zero after [said] the hand is stopped, wherein a driving signal for [said] the hand is continuously maintained after the driving of [said] the hand is started, except when [said] the hand is normally stopped.

6. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 5, wherein the driving signal for [said] the hand is also maintained when the power-supply voltage falls below the driving voltage for [said] the hand, and then [reaches again] returns to the voltage for allowing the operation.

7. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 5[or 6], further comprising an actuating section for [operating] the starting and stopping [of said] the hand, wherein a driving signal for [said] the hand is switched to a stop signal by [operating the] stopping [of said] the hand [by] with [said] the actuating section.

8. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 7, wherein [said] the hand is normally stopped when the [stop of said] hand is [operated] stopped by [said] the actuating section.

9. (Amended) A time measurement device having a hand for indicating at least an arbitrary measured elapsed time, a first actuating section for [actuating the] starting and stopping [operations of said] the hand, a second actuating section for [actuating an operation of] returning [said] the hand to zero, and a safety mechanism for disabling [said] the second actuating section when [said] the

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hand is driven by operating [said] the first actuating section and for [enabling] activating [said] the second actuating section when [said] the hand is stopped by [operating said] the first actuating section, [further comprising] and a control section for continuously maintaining a driving signal for [said] the hand after [said] the hand is driven by [operating said] the first actuating section, except when [said] the hand is normally stopped.

10. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 9, wherein [said] the control section has a pattern on a circuit board, and a lever for making mechanical contact with [said] the pattern, [and] the driving signal for [said] the hand [is] being continuously maintained by keeping [said] the lever in contact with [said] the pattern.



11. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 10, wherein [said] the control section includes a pull-up resistor or a pull-down resistor for determining a signal output to [said] the pattern, a sampling circuit for intermittently operating [said] the pull-up resistor or [said] the pull-down resistor, and a holding circuit for recognizing the signal output to [said] the pattern during a sampling period in which [said] the pull-down resistor or the pull-up resistor is intermittently operated by [said] the sampling circuit and for holding and outputting the recognized signal except when the signal is recognized.

12. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 9, wherein the driving signal for [said] the hand is also maintained when the power-supply

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voltage falls below the driving voltage for [said] the hand, and then [reaches again] returns to the voltage for allowing the operation.

13. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 9, wherein [said] the hand is normally stopped when the [stop of said] hand is [operated] stopped by [said] the first actuating section.

14. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 9[to 13], wherein the driving signal for [said] the hand is switched to a stop signal by the [operation of said] first actuating section [of stopping said hand].

15. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 1[to 14], wherein [said] the time measurement device is an electronic timepiece.

16. (Amended) A time measurement method having a function [of] for measuring at least an arbitrary elapsed time so as to disable [said] the function [from being] to be reset after [said] the function is started and to enable [said] the function from being reset after [said] the function is stopped, wherein [said] the function is continuously held in an electrical ON state after being started, except when being normally stopped.

17. (Amended) A time measurement device having a hand, wherein [said] the hand is stopped at a position corresponding to a predetermined time advanced from [the] a maximum measurement time when the time measured by a time measurement function exceeds the maximum measurement time.

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18. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 17, further comprising a safety mechanism for preventing the measured time from being initialized during time measurement, and an actuating mechanism for mechanically initializing the measured time after the time measurement.

19. (Amended) A time measurement device having a hand, comprising:

a measuring section for measuring time;

a hand moving section for moving [said] the hand when time measurement is started in [said] the measuring section;

a comparing section for comparing the value measured by [said] the measuring section with a preset value; and

a hand movement stopping section for stopping the movement of [said] the hand at a hand position a predetermined time advanced from [the] a maximum measurement time based on the result of comparison by [said] the comparing section.

20. (Amended) A time measurement device having a hand, comprising:

a time measuring function having the capability of measuring time;

a motor for driving [said] the time measuring function;

a control circuit for controlling the driving of [said] the motor so as to start/stop time measurement by [said] the time measuring function; and

a control section having an automatic stop counter for measuring the elapsed time from the start of time measurement based on a signal from [said]

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the control circuit and outputting an automatic stop signal to [said] the control circuit when [the] a maximum measurement time elapses,

wherein [said] the automatic stop counter stops the driving of [said] the time measuring function when [said] the hand [turns to] aligns with the preset hand position after a predetermined time elapses from the maximum measurement time during time measurement by [said] the time measuring function.

21. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 20, wherein [said] the automatic stop counter outputs [said] the automatic stop signal when a plurality of hands in [said] the time measuring function [turn to] aligns with the preset hand positions.

22. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 21, wherein [said] the automatic stop counter counts pulses for timing the output of motor pulses for driving [said] the motor, and outputs the automatic stop signal when the count reaches a value corresponding to the automatic stop position.

23. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 17[, 19, and 20], wherein the predetermined time is a time in which a hand is advanced a preset time from the maximum measurement time.

24. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 17[, 19, and 20], wherein the predetermined time is a time in which a plurality of hands are positioned in a preset direction after the maximum measurement time.

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25. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 17[, 19, and 20], wherein the predetermined time is a time in which a plurality of hands [are positioned at almost the same angle position] substantially aligns after the maximum measurement time.

26. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 17[to 25], wherein [said] the time measuring function is a chronograph.

27. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 17[to 26], wherein [said] the power-supply battery is a secondary battery, and is charged by a power-generating device.

28. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 27, wherein a hand for measuring the minimum unit time is continuously [turning] moving during time measurement.

29. (Amended) A time measurement method using a hand, wherein [said] the hand is stopped at a position a predetermined time advanced from the maximum measurement time when the time measured by a time measurement function exceeds the maximum measurement time.

30. (Amended) A time measurement method using a hand, comprising the steps of:

measuring time by a measuring section;

moving [said] the hand by a hand moving section when time measurement is started [in] by [said] the measuring section;

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Q' comparing a [value] time measured by [said] the measuring section with a preset [value by a comparing section] time, the step of comparing performed by a comparing section; and

stopping the movement of [said] the hand at a hand position corresponding to a predetermined time [advanced from the] after a maximum measurement time [by] with a hand movement stopping section, the predetermined time being based on [the] a result of [comparison by said] the comparing section.

31. (Amended) A time measurement method using a hand, comprising the steps of:

measuring time [by] with a time measuring function;

driving [said] the time measuring function [by] with a motor;

controlling the driving of [said] the motor [by] with a control circuit so as to start/stop time measurement [by] with [said] the time measuring function; and

measuring an elapsed time from the start of time measurement [by] with an automatic stop counter based on a signal from [said] the control circuit and outputting an automatic stop signal to [said] the control circuit when [the] a maximum measurement time elapses,

wherein [said] the control section controls [said] the control circuit and [said] the automatic stop counter, and [said] the automatic stop counter stops the driving of [said] the time measuring function when [said] the hand [turns to] aligns with a preset hand position after a predetermined time elapses from the

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a¹ maximum measurement time during time measurement by [said] the time measuring function.

32. (Amended) A time measurement device comprising:

an ordinary time indicating section for indicating ordinary time;

a time measuring section for measuring the elapsed time;

an external input section for externally starting and stopping the operation of [said] the time measuring section [from the outside]; and

a holding section for holding an electric signal for determining the operation state of [said] the time measuring section based on the operation of [said] the external input section,

wherein [said] the holding section enables the input from [said] the external input section after the disabling of [said] the time measuring section is cancelled when a state in which [said] the time measuring section in an enabled state does not operate due to low power-supply voltage or no voltage application is turned into a state in which the power-supply voltage for allowing [said] the time measuring section to operate is applied.

33. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 32, further comprising a detecting section for intermittently detecting an H-level or L-level signal held by [said] the holding section, wherein [said] the detecting section is [stopped] disabled in a state in which [said] the time measuring function is to be disabled.

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34. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 32[or 33], further comprising a second time measuring section for measuring time, wherein [said] the second time measuring section measures time since the operation is enabled, and disabling of [said] the time measuring section is cancelled when a predetermined time has elapsed.

35. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 32[or 33], further comprising a voltage detecting section for detecting the power-supply voltage, wherein the power-supply voltage is detected by [said] the voltage detecting section, and disabling is cancelled when the power-supply voltage exceeds a preset voltage.

36. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 32[or 33], further comprising:

a second time measuring section for measuring time; and

a voltage detecting section for detecting the power-supply voltage,

wherein the time in which the power-supply voltage detected by [said] the voltage detecting section is higher than a preset voltage is measured by [said] the second time measuring section, and disabling of [said] the time measuring section is cancelled after a predetermined time has elapsed.

37. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 36], wherein, while [said] the time measuring section is disabled, the signal held by [said] the holding section is switched from the L level to the H level or from the H level to the L level, [and] thereby cancelling the disabling of [said] the time measuring section [is thereby cancelled].

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a' 38. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 37], wherein [said] the time measuring section is a chronograph.

39. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 37], wherein [said] the time measuring section is a timer function.

40. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 38[or 39], wherein [said] the time measuring section has a safety mechanism for mechanically preventing the measured time from being initialized during time measurement.

41. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 40], further comprising a power-generating unit including a rechargeable charge section, and a power-generating section for charging [said] the charge section.

42. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 41, wherein [said] the power-generating section is composed of a power-generating rotor and a power-generating coil.

43. (Amended) A time measurement device according to claim 42, wherein [said] the power-generating rotor is rotated by an oscillating weight.

44. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 40], wherein [said] the power-generating rotor is rotated by operating a crown.

45. (Amended) A time measurement device according to [any of] claim[s] 32[to 44], wherein [said] the time measurement device is a wristwatch.

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46. (Amended) A time measurement method comprising the steps of:

indicating ordinary time [by] with an ordinary time indicating section;

measuring the elapsed time [by] with a time measuring section;

starting and stopping the operation of [said] the time measuring section
[from outside by] with an external input section;

holding an electric signal for determining [the] an operation state of [said]
the time measuring section in response to the operation of [said] the external
input section by a holding section,

wherein [said] the holding section cancels disabling of [said] the time
measuring section when a state in which [said] the time measuring section in an
enabled state does not operate due to low power-supply voltage or no voltage
application is turned into a state in which the power-supply voltage for allowing
[said] the time measuring section to operate is applied.